

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NOUAKC 00862 061617Z

47

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 /095 W
----- 039506

R 061130Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 373

DIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY RABAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NOUAKCHOTT 0862

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR ENRG EINV MR AG US

SUBJECT: OIL PRODUCTION IN MAURITANIA

REF: A. USDAO RABAT IR 6 865 (NOTAL)

B. ALGIERS 1069 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY KNOWS OF NO ALGERIAN-MAURITANIA OIL PRODUCTION AGREEMENT AS REPORTED REF A. SIMILARLY, WE KNOW OF NO PRODUCING OIL WELLS MUCH LESS OIL DISCOVERIES IN MAURITANIA. THERE HAVE BEEN ONLY TWO EXPLORATORY WELLS IN THE INTERIOR OF MAURITANIA AND THESE TWO DRY HOLES WERE DRILLED SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES SOUTH OF AIN BEN TILI.

2. EMBASSY HAS TALKED WITH FINANCIAL DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL HOLDING COMPANY, SOCIETE NATIONALE INDUSTRIELLE ET MINIERE (SNIM), WHICH IS CONTRACTOR FOR ONLY PROJECTED OIL REFINERY IN MAURITANIA. WHEN ASKED ABOUT REPORT FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK NEGOTIATING FOR
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NOUAKC 00862 061617Z

FINANCING OF A REFINERY, REF B, HE SAID "THEY'VE GOT THE

WRONG COUNTRY." CONTRACT FOR 34 MILLION DOLLAR OIL REFINERY FOR MAURITANIA WAS SIGNED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF SNIM AND VOEST OF AUSTRIA IN NOVEMBER 1973 (SEE NOUAKCHOTT 997 OF 17 OCT 73). VOEST ARRANGED FINANCING THROUGH EUROPEAN BANKS WITH AUSTRIAN STATE BANK AS A PARTICIPANT. CONSTRUCTION IN NOUADHIBOU IS ALREADY UNDER WAY.

3. COMMENT: ONLY KNOWN ALGERIAN-MAURITANIAN OIL DEAL IS OCTOBER 1973 SNIM-SONATRACH (ALGERIAN OIL COMPANY) AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE CRUDE FOR SNIM REFINERY AT LOWEST MARKET PRICE. THIS DOES NOT PRECLUDE POSSIBILITY MAURITANIA AND ALGERIA HAVE AGREED TO EXPLOIT JOINTLY ANY FUTURE OIL FINDS IN THIS COUNTRY.

4. IF FNCB IS TO FINANCE ANY PART OF SNIM OIL REFINERY, IT COULD BE BECAUSE OF COST OVERRUNS ON ORIGINAL CONTRACT PRICE. HOWEVER, WE DOUBT SNIM FINANCIAL DIRECTOR WOULD BE UNAWARE OF SUCH NEGOTIATIONS.HANDYSIDE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, EXPLORATION, PETROLEUM REFINING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NOUAKC00862
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750158-0746
From: NOUAKCHOTT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750577/aaaacsj.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 USDAO RABAT IR 6, 75 865
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OIL PRODUCTION IN MAURITANIA
TAGS: PINR, ENRG, EINV, MR, AG, US
To: STATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006